TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office

February 27, 1997 LB 502

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of the I'd like to talk a little bit about the cattle industry, if I could. I remember as a young boy going to Omaha with my Dad, my uncles, bringing...going to the stockyards and seeing all the cattle that were there. Not only in the stockyards, but the surrounding area around, which is part of...encompassed in Omaha now, there were thousands of cattle on feed there. And what had happened, the packing houses went to where the cattle And now you're seeing a reverse in that. Actually the packing houses are going closer to where the cattle are again. They're not in the feedlots around Omaha like they once were. They're in...Cuming County has a lot of cattle, so what is in IBP has a slaughterhouse there. West Point? They slaughter There's a big packing several thousand head of cattle a day. plant in Madison, and I believe that's a pork plant. There has been a pork plant in Fremont, for as long as I can remember George A. Hormel has been there, and prior to them it was Millions of heads of hogs have been Fremont Packing Company. slaughtered there. This doesn't affect, this doesn't affect any breaking plants in south Omaha. And for my city friends, a breaking plant is when the carcasses are already slaughtered and they're brought into these plants and then they are portioned out, the carcasses are broke into different cuts, boxed, then sent out to warehouses to be sold in grocery stores. doesn't affect them a bit. The only thing that this affects is the slaughterhouse where you have the paunch manure and there is absolutely no way, my friends, there's absolutely no way that you can get rid of the odor that comes from paunch manure. don't care what you do, there is always going to be that odor And it doesn't affect any plants that are already in existence. And I don't know why, I really don't know why anyone would want to establish a new plant in that area anyway. all, you have to truck all the cattle in there, because there's not enough coming through the Omaha stockyards anymore, I don't imagine, to keep those plants going. Very few numbers that come in there. So that's why, that's why the plants have located out in the area where the cattle...look what happened in Council Bluffs. IBP closed that plant because they say there wasn't a sufficient number of hogs available in that area anymore, so they're going to where the hogs are at. So that's something else, that's a horse of a different color, I quess, that should be addressed sometime. But right now I'm in...I'm